P25180.P03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Kikuo IWASAKA et al.

Serial No.: \ Not Yet Assigned

Filed

Concurrently Herewith

For

FLEXIBLE TUBE FOR AN ENDOSCOPE

CLAIM OF PRIORITY

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant hereby claims the right of priority granted pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 119 based upon Japanese Application Nos. 2000-134922, filed May 8, 2000; 2000-142206, filed May 15, 2000; and 2000-156783, filed May 26, 2000. As required by 37 C.F.R. 1.55, certified copies of the Japanese applications have been filed in parent Application No. 09/848,301, filed May 4, 2001.

> Respectfully submitted, Kikuo IWASAKA et al.

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April 12, 2004 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191